

10/507022

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Attorney Docket # 33900-161PUS

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Patent

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re National Phase PCT Application of  
Guy FONTANILLE et al.

Int'l PCT Serial No.: PCT/FR04/000743

Int'l Filing Date:: 25 March 2004

For: A Tiltably Retractable Thruster

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08a. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

The references submitted herewith have been reported in the priority French Patent Search Report on November 27, 2003 by the French Patent Office and in the specification. However, French reference nos. 2 652559 and 2741854 are not in English. We have, therefore, cited their U.S. equivalents (U.S. Patent Nos. 5,152,240 and 6,056,610) as well. Reference No. NL8700535 is cited as an "A" reference in the priority French Patent Search Report. It is believed that this constitutes a concise explanation of the relevance of this reference in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3). However, if to consider this reference the Examiner requires additional information, a further concise explanation will be provided upon the Examiner's request.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R §§1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56(b), or that any cited document listed or attached is (or constitutes) prior art. Unless otherwise indicated, the date of publication indicated for an item is taken from the face of the item and Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to prove that the date of publication is in fact different.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that the copy of the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08a be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Respectfully submitted,  
COHEN, PONTANI, LIEBERMAN & PAVANE

By

  
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Dated: September 8, 2004

Substitute for Form 1449/PTO		<i>Complete if Known</i>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	10/507022
		Filing Date	
		First Named Inventor	Guy FONTANILLE
		Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	
Sheet 1 of 2		Attorney Docket Number	33900-161PUS

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind-Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US-5,257,952	11-02-1993	VERONESI et al.	
		US-5,152,240	10-06-1992	FONTANILLE	
		US-6,056,610	05-02-2000	FONTANILLE	
		US-			

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind-Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		EP 0612658	08-31-1994	KOBAYASHI, Noboru		✓
		WO98/30440	07-16-1998	GAREN, Rune		✓
		WO97/26181	07-24-1997	ELGER, Gerd		✓
		FR2652559	04-05-1991	FONTANILLE, Guy		
		NL8700535	10-03-1988	MEIJER SJOERD		
		FR2798184	03-09-2001	FONTANILLE, Guy		
		FR2652559	04-05-1991	FONTANILLE, Guy		
		FR2741854	06-06-1997	FONTANILLE, Guy		
		WO97/20733	06-12-1997	FONTANILLE, Guy		✓

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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